A

True report of the taking of Marſeilles by the fauourers of the league togither with the reſcue therof by the kings faithful ſubiects,

Wherin may be ſeene the woonderfull prouidence of Almighty God in the deliuerie of them that truſt in him from the trecherous and bloudie deuiſes of their aduerſaries.

Lately tranſlated out of French.

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The true report of ſuch occurrences as fell out at Marſeiles the 8. 9. 10. dayes of Aprill.

Alſo an aduertiſement concerning the ſame.

IF it be lawfull for any man to peruert al order of Juſtice & lawe, then muſt it neceſſarily bee lawefull in atchiuing a kingdome, ſayd he who ouerthrewe the eſtate of Rome, thereby euidently giuing to vnderſtande that ſuch as can broke no peace, neyther be content with their owne, do highly eſtæme the violation of laws and contempt of Juſtice, alſo that there is nothing ſo holy or ſacred but they will profane, neyther any wickednelle or trecherie ſo great but they will commit, for the atteyning to ſoueraignitie, and after the atteyning thereof, for the mainteynaunce of the ſame, whereof him ſelfe ſoone after ſhewed the experience, as had done alſo Silla and Marius before: for ambition and auarice are paſſions and euen principall grounds of all miſchiefe, procuring the tranſformation of men into all formes and colours, euen as feare forceth the Chame-

leon, whereby the infernall furies doe driue them to spare neither parents nor friends, no not God himselfe, whose name they do abuse to the end with greater facilitie to deceiue, so as a man would suppose that being euen consumed with zeale to Gods house they were Helies which seeke nothing but reformatiõ in religion. or that touched with the miseries of the people they be Moses who endeuoreth only to deliuer them from this oppression: But entring into deeper consideration of their dealings, we finde thẽ to be rather Berchomanes or Nouses of Candy as the successe doe shewe, though ouer late for the weale of those who with Esopes horse hauing admitted the snaffle and sadle, must of force passe on in the carrier. The sheep saith Archidamus, euer singeth one song, but the ambitious person neuer leaueth altering of tunes vntill hee hath atchiued his purpose. Cratenus and Antigonas proclaimed nothing but libertie to the Athenians, but hauing once obtained the maistrie, they fell into an other phrase. Those men that trouble this estate doe proclaime onely zeale to Catholike Religion, & affection to the reformation of the estate and reliefe of the people, yea if we will beleeue them, those are the only causes of their taking of armes: but if we looke into their actions

tions not onely passed but also present, we shall finde that under this so faire a pretence, they seeke with Absalon to steale away the peoples heartes, to the ende so to vsurpe the estate, euen alreadie the most incredulous doe beginne to smell it out, yea and to feele it to their great damage, verie well perceiuing that the reunion which they speake of, is not ment of the Protestants to Romish Religion, but of their owne estate to the house of Lorrain whereto they haue long sought to perswade the world ỳ it doth appertaine: that it is not ỳ reformation, but the vsurpation of the Realme: neither the releefe but oppression of the communalty, and therfore do with one accord seeing their goods embeselled, their houses burned, their wiues and daughters deflowred, and so many murders committed, exclaime of them, declaring that although their pretenses were true, yet were the medecine more daungerous and intollerable than the disease, and that they are craftie Phisitions that drawe so much blode, and do so extremely purge their patients, to the end the same neuer recouering, they may become their heires. But least any shoulde suppose that I speake all this without cause, or of any particular passion, I will proue it by that which passed

at Marſeiles this preſent moneth of Aprill, euen in ſuch manner as an honourable perſon hath ſet it down in a letter to a brother of his: as followeth.

Brother I writ vnto you at large eyght daies ago, ſince which time we haue had wonderful occurrences in this towne of Marſeiles, whereof although you may haue heard before the receipt of theſe preſents, yet I thought good to write vnto you the particularities & trueth of al, to the end you may with vs praiſe God for the fauour he hath ſhewed vs. Knowe you therefore that the firſt Conſull of this towne, being gone to the Court about two moneths ſince where he yet remaineth, the ſecond Conſull named Lewes de la Motte de Aries tooke the gouernement vppon him in the abſence of the Lord great Prior, which Conſull hearing of the late troubles of this realme, and in this countrey proſecuted by the Lorde of Vins, he caſt with himſelf how to prepare a way wherby he might vſurpe the ſoueraignitie of Marſeiles and to that entent hee ſecretly practiſed the ſayde Lorde of Vins to ioyne with him, as aſſuring himſelfe that the pretence of warre and league againſt the contemners of Romiſh religion, whereto theſe people are wonderfully addicted, would cauſe them to like of whatſoeuer

weuer his attemptes. And for the atcheiuing of his purpose he also practised two of the captaines of this towne, as good as himselfe, who easily condiscended to his aduise, especially the one called Captaine Boniface, who conditioned with him that first hee should make away his brother named Generall Boniface, a man accõpted worth threescore thousand Crownes: further, for the better compassing of his enterprise he purposed to seaze vppon the fortresse called Our ladie of the garde before he did innouate any other matter, and therefore the 8. of this present moneth hee went to the sayde fortresse vnder coulour of seeing whether it were sufficiently fortefied, the captaine thereof, although he held nothing of the towne, yet seeing it was the Consull, permitted him and three more to come in: he beeing entered toke the sayd Captaine by the coller offering the dagger to his throat, in case he once stirred against him, and so caused the gate to be opened and brought in souldiers to his behoofe, neyther would he suffer the sayde Captaine to go downe into the towne lest the people should haue notise of his proceedinges. Thus finding himselfe maister of the saide fortresse he purposed the next night to put his practise in execution, and to the ende not to faile of his pro-

misse to the said Boniface, he caused the afore-
said generall Boniface (who the same morning
was riding to Aix to the Lord great Prior) to
stay at the gate and so procured him to tarrie
vntil the next morning vnder pretence of send-
ing by him a letter of very great importance
for the kings service, to the saide Lorde great
Prior, The poore generall not suspecting anie
harme, & the rather because he had lately Chri-
stened his child, did willingly alight and staie
his iourney vntill the next day, but before the
morning trauayled an other way then hee
thought for: for the same euening about eight
of the clocke, the said Consul togither with 4.
of his confederates came and knocked at the
said generals gate, demaunding to speak with
his gossip, who immediatly came downe to ỹ
gate, where after vsual salutations he deliue-
red him the said supposed letter to the L. great
Prior, saying to them that were with him do
your office, which was the watch word, and
so presently they fell vppon the said generall
and gaue him foure or fiue blowes with their
daggers, who being so wounded got vp into ỹ
hanle where presently he fel downe dead, this
done his said brother not being far off entred
the house merely, and as enheritour began to
rifle and seale vppon what he list, while the
Consul

Consul for his part was not idle, for straight-way with a troupe of 25. Hargabuziers he rapped at the Protestants doores, and all that hee founde he imprisoned in Saint Iohns Tower, that done with all expedition hee wrote a letter to the Lorde of Vins, the tenure whereof ensueth.

My Lord these presents may be to assure you that without dissimulation the towne of Marseiles hath openly embraced the partie of God and the estate to the ende to make full profession of the Catholike faith, where euery one is resolued with whatsoeuer their meanes, to cleaue to the league of the Christian and Catholike Princes, also to you, who to the same effect wee beseech to come vnto vs, and if you take the way of Aix, you may come to Porneux or Fumeau, but if you take any other, take the way to S. Iaquaries or Gemenes, for we doe send to all the villages to assist you with victuals aid and fauor, and in case they do otherwise we wil rote them out, yea if neede be, we will bring the Canon denouncing your enimies to be ours, and those to be our friends that be yours, or shall assist you, taking you into our protection, like as also we commit our selues to the protectiō of al Christian & Catholike princes & to yours.

This

This daye was the fort of Our ladie of the garde taken and subdued vnto your and our deuotion: Thus beseching God the King of Kinges to haue you in his holy kæping:

From Marseiles this eigth of Aprill.

Your affectionate friendes and seruantes: Nicolas Roque, Consul de Aries, Consul Gorgone, Captaine Antonye Cornich, Captaine Charles of Casane, Captaine Loniface, Captaine Taron, Cap. Tanse.

The next morning he deliuered two protestantes to the people to be murdered whom the children dragged vp and downe the towne while the honester persons remained shut vp in their houses, aswel to eschewe the viewe of such cruelties, as for feare least such Catholickes as had any thing to lose, might haue the like entertainment, besides their doubt ý the Lord of Vins had alreadie brought his power into the towne, & their opinion that whatsoeuer this Consull had done, was without anie commaundement from the king: for euen his familier friendes before knewe not of it, thus he raigned al that day and the next night. The next day the people knowing that the Lord of Vins his power was not yet entred the towne

tooke

toke heart & together with the chiefest among them determined to talke with the consul, & to enquire by whose authoritie & cõmandement he wrought these broyles: others began to report throughout the towne ỳ the Consull did al of his owne head, in purpose to bring in the Lord of Vins & to make him master of ỳ town, so that the people, not vsed to such subiection, & minding to maintain their liberty, began to quaile in that good opinion which before they had conceiued of the Consull, which he perceiued or at the least greatly feared, & therefore for a remedy answered such as demaunded the reason of his doinges, that it was because hee had notice of some intelligence which the Protestants had practised in the towne, for ỳ preuenting whereof, he had proceeded to the shutting of them vp in S Ihons tower, which hee could not so well performe, but ỳ the cõmons had gottẽ those ỳ were slaine out of his hands: Furthermore, that he thought good there shuld be after dinner a meeting of the most honorable in ỳ towne house, there to determine therof, also that the same should be generall & so it was at the last concluded. Howbeit seeing the people begin to quaile, to the ende stil to flesh them on he deliuered them an other prisoner whom he procured to be slaine and dragged all

about

about the towne, therby weening to encorage the people to prosecute their crueltics, and desired them stil to continue in their affection to the Catholike faith, having before made proclamation that all men should weare crosses in their hats: whē he perceiued that euery one resolued to appeare at the said assemblie, he & his confederates hoped ẏ same to be the readie way to become the strongest, and thereuppon concluded among themselues to cut the throts of all that came, & to that purpose to place 60. harquebuziers in ẏ town house, also to strenthen the bodie of the gard ẏ was beneath. The heads of families not fearing any such matter went boldly to the towne house, the whole assembly consisting at the least of 500. persons al in one haule easie to haue ben enclosed & made away. The Consul oftentimes ran in & out as one vncertain what to do, but in the end resolued to propound to the whole assēbly his iustificatiō, wherupon by their coūtenances gathering ẏ they misliked his propositiō he thought it expedient to go forth & then to murther thē al, howbeit god, as it may be said, not permitting the execution of such crueltie so alienated the sences and toke away the wits of all the assembly that in lieu of reprouing his doings they made no aunswere to his motion, as see-

ming

ming to them that he had reason in all that he had done, and so they brake vp and departed wout other resolution, neuerthels being out of ỹ house, gathering their wits togither, they began to feare the comming of ỹ Lord of Vins and therefore resolued among themselues at night to ioyne with the watch, notwithstanding they had no such cõmandemẽt, & so to become the stronger: on the other side ỹ said Consul knowing ỹ the Lord of Vins could not that night bring in his power, & fearing to bee ouer reached commanded the M. of the great Priors galley of Tholouze to prepare the said galley, *purposing if matters went amisse*, togither with his associats to enter ỹ said galley & so to depart: he also sent to ỹ Duke of Florẽce 4. galeys which as ỹ voice went staied in ỹ Iles to conduct the Duke of Neuers to Luke, willing them to send him 200. souldiers for the kings seruice, & augmentation of ỹ Cath. faith which they granted him in cõsideration of his trauel taken ỹ day before against the protestãts, but god so quickned ỹ minds of good men ỹ they taking armes displaced ỹ body of the garde & set others in ỹ rome, & yet wout violence, so to see what ỹ captains of ỹ town would do of whom two wer partakers in ỹ cõspiracy, but they seing so many new mẽ which wold not obey thẽ began

began to quaile, as did also the Consul afore said, because whersoeuer they became they still found such as would resist them, which caused the said Consul to get into the watch of Canaillon turning & tossing all night like a moth about a candle, and so comming within the view of the Tower of S. Iohn he drew thitherward and so to the chaine where he purposed to receiue the 200. Harquebuziers which ỹ forenamed 4. Gallies of Florence brought thither at the break of day, but in that place he found fiue hundred harquebuziers, whom whē he beheld he purposed to embarke himself in a Squiffe & so to haue fled to the said Gallies, but he was by them stayed, and word sent to the gard of the Lodge of his being at S. Iohns, wherupon thither resorted a band of mē, who demanded of him by whose authoritie he committed these murders, but he seeing himselfe thus cast away could make no answere and so was conueyed to the towne house, where at ỹ same instant euen before his face they chose 24. of the chief men of the town to order their affaires togither with ỹ youngest Consul who was but an idiot, and they so chosen did immediatly appoint new Captaines, who had quickly assembled fiue or six thousand Harquebuziers in the towne, and the same once armed

and

and the towne assured to the king they presently dispatched a messenger to the Lorde great Prior then lying at Aix very sorowfull for the losse of a towne of such importance, whom they desired spædely to come to them, and in the meane time they seazed vppon the fort of our Lady of the gard, which was sone yealded when they that kept it perceiued the towne to be lost, & so Claud. Boniface was also brought to the towne house, the rest saued themselues. The Consul being degraded from his hood & office, was committed to the kings prison with the said Boniface. The Lord great Prior arriued about a leuen of the clocke at night, & immediatly they began to prosecute the proceste of the Consul and his adherents, which was not perfected before ten of clock the next night and within one houre after, the saide Consul and Captaine Boniface were both hanged before the gate of the late general Boniface, the people hauing continued in armes from the time they were apprehended vntill their execution, This was the end of these two Traitors, who were punished according to their deserts, and reigned but 48. houres: The saide Consuls practise tended to become Lord of the towne, and not to vse the Lord of Vins power except vpon necessitie, being also determined

to sacke the same, and he had chosen for him-selfe and his chiefe adherents threescore houses the rest should haue fallen to his souldiers: but God would not permit such mischiefe, who as we may say, wrought mightely, and sauing vs preserued also the Protestants, whom ỹ Lord great Prior did set at libertie the same night that he arriued.

By this little may we euidently see that the words and writings of these men are no perfite images of their euents, and therfore ỹ we must rather haue recourse to their actions, which do more liuely expresse them, and as effects do necessarily plead their cause. The dog and the Woolfe are very like, but their deeds do bewray the difference, the one bring by thẽ knowne for a keeper, the other for a murderer of the flock, and saith great Alexander, oftentimes, such as outwardly are clothed in white do vnderneath weare purple garmentes, so many times these preachers of religion, and reformation of the estate doe inwardly hatch Atheisme and destruction of the countrie: and herein we see, that it is not religion, but ambition neither the welth, but subuertion of the estate that causeth them to take armes. This Consuls zeale was tyranny ouer Marselles, and the religion of Captaine Boniface

Boniface was succeſſour to his brother, the reſt of theſe zealous people togither tended to the ſpoile of their town and deſtruction of their countrie.

But now we to enter into conſideration of this hypocritical Conſuls pretence. The Proteſtants, ſaith he, had intelligẽce in the towne The like ſpeech vſeth the Cardinal of Vaudemount in the diſcourſe of the taking of Verdũ which he hath procured to be printed, & Antragues vſeth the ſame language to exclude the duke of Montpenſier out of Orleans whether is maieſtie ſent him. Neither is it to be marueiled that they all agrée in one phraſe, as being wholly poſſeſſed with one & the ſame ſpirit who hath ben a lyer from the beginning: But leaſt they ſhould be daunted at ouer ſtrait examination of matters, I would aſke them what intelligence the proteſtants had in Chaalon, Dion, Rheins, Maiſiers and Argenteau? It is alt as true as the league of Magdeburge in Germany lately concluded by the Lorde of Segur, as they ſay, with the County Palatine, who dyed 8. years before Segar euer ſet ſote in Germany, alſo with the protector of Scotland, who deceaſed 5. yeares before: yea & as true as that the proteſtants brake the croſſe of S Martins in the field nere to Paris, whẽ within few

nights after, the Captain of that quarter surprised one that was making an end of the breaking thereof, thereby to prouoke the people to sedition. They must vse some better colours in their affaires, for God by his iust iudgmēt hath vndoubtedly giuen them ouer to a spirite of astonishment, and therefore O poore nation beware, least they vnder the like pretence, abuse that in the same maner. Consider in what predicament this zealous reformer doth constitute the king, the princes of his blood, and generally al that follow not his faction, when he depriueth them of their titles of Catholike & Christian & appropriateth the same to his like. This is the honour that he yeldeth to his maiestie for his so often aduenturing his life in such a quarrel. Thou shalt not slander the law, the Prince, or the people: and yet these great zelators do not onely in words, but also in writing continually slaunder the king, yea so far forth that the Cardinal of Vaudemont endeauoreth to perswade the king that he mindeth to vse the help of the protestants & Turks for the subuertion of Catholike religion: let vs therefore enter into the view of this Consuls conscience who for the establishing of his tyranny & renting this flower from the crowne of France, purposeth to vse the weapons of the

Lord of Vins, though but as a scafolde which
builders vse, and which when the building is
done they pul downe againe, and these treche-
ries do they learne of that euill spirite that di-
recteth al their actions. We may therfore here-
by see what may be looked for from them. Euen
you ministers of the Clergie, Nobilitie & third
estate who haue embarked you selues wt them
They vse you, but if God should so farre affect
this realm as to permit them to attain to their
purposes you should be entreated after ỹ Mar-
silian maner. We see what Antragues hath al-
redy done, how he first imprisoned, then bani-
shed those captains that established his tyran-
ny. Know you not those whom you follow to
be such as are of an vnsatiable ambitiõ, whom
all the wealth in the worlde cannot content?
They wil resemble this Consul, who for him-
selfe and his associates reserueth all the best
houses, appointing to his soldiers those wher-
in nothing is to be had: but what stand I here
vpon, when ỹ whole house is shared out, what
can be left for you? They vse your help in hun-
ting for their pray, but in deuiding the spoile
they will imitate ỹ Lyon. The shares laid out
they will sease vppon one, but if you reach to-
ward the other, the lyons claws wil cole you:
for men haue no fixed terme in their desire of

atteining to riches. These are subtill Forces, such as with the smoke of faire promises doe spoile you of al that you haue, that themselues may seaze thereupon. They be Mermaids, who to the end to procure your shipwracke do with their pleasant songs seeke to lul you on sleepe, but with Vlisses stop your eares, and with the Troyans close your eyes against this Helein whom they bring into this country to bury vs vp in ỹ ruines therof. Let vs in this discourse consider the fruites of couetousnesse and ambition, the one proceeding so farre oh horrible among Christians, as to murther his own brother, how Catholike so euer, the other to enfringe his vowed faith to his prince and to imbrew his hands in the blood of his fellow citizens, and both togither to enrich themselues with the spoile of their countrie. By this example let vs iudge what else we may hope for of these reformers, saving that hauing begun with the protestants they will ende with ourselues, or rather that as this Consul beganne with the welthiest catholicks, so wil they proceed with such as among vs shalbe of best habilitie: yea, who shalbe safe when the one brother spareth not the other: and sith they begin with the Catholicks, yea with the king himselfe, whose townes & treasure they daily seaze

vpon

vppon. whether shall we hope for better? The Protestants goods are not sufficient to fill the broken bags or quench the insatiable thirst of these cormorants and this do not the chiefest among them conceale, who do account of this realme as of a booty, to the end after the example of Silla to exhibite our goods to ỹ most giuer. If at the beginning of this banquet where to these craftie victioners doe enuite vs, they set before vs such wine, what shal we looke for in the midst, or at the ende? Let the rich men at the beginning account themselues protestants, for their faire houses, goods, and lands are so already, & by this tyrants letters we see what the poore country men are to look for. Tyrants saith Diogines doe vse their fauorites as bottles, they hang vp the full and cast of the emptie. If then they spare not those, what will they do with the rest? Doth not Antragues begin to expell the richest Catholikes out of Orleans to the end to seaze vpon their goods? Antisthenes did very truly accoũt tyrants worse then tormenters, for these put onely offenders to death, the others spare not ỹ innocent. How happy therefore are those whom other mens harmes can make to beware. Finally I pray you a little with me to stay vpon the diligent consideration of the wonderfull deliuery of

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this poꝛe towne, togither wᵗ many good people in the same. The tyꝛant hath the foꝛtresse: the pꝛotestantes are chained vp in dongeons, the rest sometime shut vp in their houses, sometime besieged in the towne house, and sometime naked among his weapons: hee hath his power vpon both sea and land. All this notwithstanding, God who sheweth his strength in our weakenesse, & pꝛeserueth the weake from the lyons iawes, and in the fiꝛy furnace, hath fꝛeed all good men, and kept this place being of so great impoꝛtance to his maiesty. The tyꝛants heart faileth him at his most nede: the Lorde depꝛiueth him of his senses, and he bandoneth his tiranny without any stroke stroken. None is moꝛe coward than a tyꝛant. God the establisher of kings doth pꝛeserue them and their estates, and although sometimes he afflicteth thē with the rebellions of their nearest friends as he did Dauid, so that he bꝛingeth them low as he did Manasses and Nabuchadonozer, yet doth he afterward deliuer and raise them vp againe. We sæ the smal continuance of this tyranny, which lasted but 48. houres: hardly did this tyꝛant giue his subiectes time to eate oꝛ dꝛink, so shoꝛt was this blody tragedie. These were violent stoꝛmes, and sone ouerblowne. This conspiracie was no sooner spꝛong vp but

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it withered again: This is an example of gods iudgements, for saith the Apostle, Who so resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God, and who so resisteth Gods ordinance do draw his curse vppon them. These be the tyrants which warre against God, and against whom he shooteth the darts of his wrath: Dauid shall neuer want power and courage to pursue such Absalons, neither doth France want trees to hang them vppon, as was this Consull. France is yet sufficiently stored of true and natural frenchmen, both willing and able to deliuer her from those that haue sworn her destruction. To conclude, those that haue béene seduced will reclaime themselues & such good and honorable personages, as hitherto haue kept their houses, not for feare, but expecting his maiesties commaundement will take the fields to the end altogether vnder his banners to follow the example of the Marsilians.

FINIS.